Newsletter of the
Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke's
Nurses Alumni Association

RUSH UNIVERSITY

news & views
WINTER 2013

RUSH TO RECEIVE MORE THAN $12 MILLION FOR APRN TRAINING

KATHLEEN DELANEY, PhD, RN, PMH-NP, FAAN
Professor of community, systems and mental health nursing

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has named Rush University Medical Center one of five hospitals nationwide to take part in an initiative designed to train more Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs). Under the Graduate Nurse Education (GNE) Demonstration, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services will reimburse Rush University College of Nursing more than $12 million over four years to increase training opportunities for APRNs at a variety of clinical sites.

"This program puts Rush in a leadership role in the nation's efforts to train nurses to meet the increased demand for acute, primary and preventive care," said Kathleen Delaney, PhD, RN, PMH-NP, FAAN (Rush PhD '83, Cert. '05), professor of community, systems and mental health nursing.

The GNE Demonstration, which is funded through the Affordable Care Act, promotes a partnership among Rush University College of Nursing, several hospitals and select community service sites throughout Illinois. The GNE Demonstration will support increased enrollment of APRNs (including nurse practitioners, clinical nurse specialists, nurse anesthetists and nurse midwives), some of whom are currently turned away due to capacity limitations at training sites. According to Delaney, participation in the GNE Demonstration will enable the college to graduate around 100 more APRNs per year.

The initiative's funding will allow Rush to set up additional training sites for students and to increase capacity at current sites, which will allow for clinical rotations for nurses throughout Chicago, the state of Illinois and surrounding states. The APRNs will receive advanced training in primary care, preventive care, translational care and chronic care management, which can help fill gaps in community settings, including underserved rural and inner-city areas.

Rush is one of just five sites selected by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to take part in the GNE Demonstration. Rush, the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, Duke University Hospital in Durham, N.C., Scottsdale Healthcare Medical Center in Scottsdale, Ariz., and Memorial Hermann-Texas Medical Center Hospital in Houston will share a combined $200 million in this innovative clinical training model.

"We focused our application on what kind of nurse we would produce," Delaney said of what was a highly competitive application process. "We want to produce the kind of APRNs who can turn a sick care system into a health care system; who understand caring for a population of people in the most cost-effective manner; who understand how to combine telemedicine with in-person care to create the right clinical touches; who will work in new integrated care models in which behavioral, physical and mental health issues are all treated at the same site; who will provide end-of-life care; and who will deliver care at logical points of contact, such as school-based health centers."

"We're really looking at taking the best ideas in health care reform and putting nurses in those innovative models so they not only develop the right clinical skills and learn how to use them, but also learn how to think about health in a different way."

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MESSAGE FROM DEAN MELANIE DREHER

A FEDERAL GRANT LEADS TO MORE RUSH APRNs AND MORE AFFORDABLE CARE

$200 million: Yes, it's a lot of money, but it represents more than the award to Rush University and four other U.S. medical centers for the Graduate Nurse Education (GNE) Demonstration. For Rush alone, it represents more than 400 Advanced Practice Registered Nursing (APRN) students joining the College of Nursing community over the next four years and hundreds — perhaps thousands — of patients and families who will now have access to care.

Mandated by Section 5509 of the Affordable Care Act, the GNE Demonstration (which you will read about in the cover story of this issue) reimburses selected acute care and community-based health care providers for their role in providing clinical training for APRN students. This award will allow the College of Nursing to establish new kinds of training sites that will prepare students for future practice.

Higher levels of graduate education in nursing are increasingly important so that our public — especially those in underserved and high-risk communities — have access to services currently unavailable in our health care system. The College of Nursing is committed to aligning our education, research and practice with the Affordable Care Act, and now, thanks to the GNE Demonstration award, we will have the clinical and leadership capital to assure that all citizens have access to high-quality and low-cost care.

The tradition of leadership in education and practice that we believe inspired Rush's selection for the GNE award continues to define us in so many ways. Rush critical care clinical nurse specialist Melissa Browning, DNP '09, is the national winner of a *Nursing Spectrum* Nursing Excellence Award (see page 3). Also, a record number of our faculty was inducted this year as fellows in the American Academy of Nursing (see page 7) — Catherine Catrambone, PhD, RN (MSN '89, PhD '00); Mary Johnson, PhD, RN; Wrenetha Julion, PhD, MPH, RN (PhD '02); Susan Swider, PhD, APRN, BC; and Marilyn Wideman, DNP, RN-BC (DNP '07). This brings the total number of academy fellows at Rush to 22.

I am so proud of the many and diverse nursing leaders who make up our faculty, our students and our alumni. Thank you so much for your continuing support for our tradition of leadership and innovation in practice, education and research.

Best wishes,

Melanie C. Dreher, PhD, RN, FAAN
John L. and Helen Kellogg Dean
Rush University College of Nursing

NURSES ALUMNI ASSOCIATION HOMECOMING ::

More than 80 alumni returned to campus for our annual Homecoming celebration in October. The two-day event included many activities such as a lunch with students, a tour of the new Tower hospital facility and an all-class celebration luncheon and traditional tea. Homecoming 2012 was a special event for the Presbyterian-St. Luke's Class of 1962 as they celebrated their 50th reunion. To read more about the event, view photos or provide us with feedback, visit www.con.rushalumni.org/homecoming.

We invite all alumni to attend next year's Homecoming on Oct. 18–19, 2013. Are you a graduate of the Presbyterian-St. Luke's Class of 1963 and want to help plan your 50th reunion? Contact the Office of Alumni Relations at alumni@rush.edu or (312) 942-2569.

MELISSA BROWNING, DNP ’09, RECEIVES NATIONAL NURSE.COM NURSING EXCELLENCE AWARD

When Rush University College of Nursing alumna Melissa Browning, DNP ’09, a critical care clinical nurse specialist (CNS) at Rush, was nominated by Rush’s Professional Nursing Staff for a nurse.com/*Nursing Spectrum* magazine Nursing Excellence Award, she didn’t expect to win — not at the greater Chicago regional level and certainly not at the national level. She won both.

In selecting her — from among all of the regional winners in her category — to win a national Nursing Excellence Award in the Clinical Nursing, Inpatient category, the board at nurse.com/*Nursing Spectrum* recognized what Browning’s colleagues see in her each and every day: that she is an innovative collaborator who wants to see her team succeed.

“Working here as a staff nurse with Melissa and seeing the impact she’s had on quality, specifically in the surgical intensive care unit, is amazing,” said Benson Wright, MSN ’12, president of the Professional Nursing Staff at Rush and Browning’s nominator for the award.

“At many hospitals, the role of the CNS is to do orientation, inservice and education, but Melissa also focuses on quality metrics and making sure they’re addressed,” he said. “She looks at quality of care but does it in a manner that progresses our nursing knowledge and improves patient outcomes.”

Browning has performed research and instituted new processes that have improved evidence-based practice with respect to everything from central line insertions to infection control on her unit to hypoglycemia and improved glycemic control with insulin infusions in adult critical care, and she is known among her colleagues as a dedicated nurse who is always seeking new ways to improve patient outcomes. This work has contributed to the unit twice receiving a Beacon Award for Excellence — most recently receiving a Silver Beacon Award in 2012, one of just four inpatient units in the state of Illinois to be named Beacon Award recipients.

Browning says her success in patient care is due in part to the dedication of the entire clinical team.

“I really enjoy working with the whole multidisciplinary team ... and just making a difference with the care we provide to our patients,” Browning told nurse.com. “I appreciate that [my colleagues] are there because they want to make a difference in the lives of all our patients and the families. They’re always eager and enthusiastic to take on new practices if they know they’re evidence-based and also going to make a difference.”

“I really enjoy working with the whole multidisciplinary team … and just making a difference with the care we provide to our patients.”

MELISSA BROWNING, DNP ’09

COLLEGE NEWS

FACULTY NEWS ::

BETH NACHTSHEIM BOLICK, DNP, CNP-AC, PNP-BC, CCRN (MSN '95, CERT. '95, DNP '07), coordinator of the Acute Care Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Program, was named one of only 20 Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Executive Nurse Fellows from across the country, selected in 2012. Bolick joins a select group of nurse leaders chosen to participate in a three-year, world-class leadership development program.

SUSAN BREITENSTEIN, PHD, PMHCNS-BC, RN (BSN '94, MSN '97, PHD '09), assistant professor, is one of just 12 outstanding nursing educators to win the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Nurse Faculty Scholars program grant this year. Intended to advance the careers of promising junior nurse faculty, this three-year, $350,000 award will help Breitenstein develop and test a digital parent-training program for low-income parents of young children.

MARILYN WIDEMAN, DNP, RN-BC, FAAN (DNP '07), has been promoted to associate provost for professional education and community engagement and associate vice president for community health care practice. In her new roles, Wideman will maintain continuing education (CE) accreditation for Rush, provide lead oversight in the advancement of Rush University's community relations and initiatives, help evolve health care practice across disciplines and develop and oversee community-based practice innovation initiatives.

PROGRAM NEWS ::

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has awarded Rush a two-year, $700,000 Advanced Education Nursing Traineeship grant supporting **primary care nurse practitioner students.** The funds will help pay for costs associated with tuition, books, fees and reasonable living expenses for nursing students enrolled in a primary care track of an advanced specialty program.

The Helene Fuld Health Trust has awarded Rush University College of Nursing a $500,000 grant to support financial aid for students enrolled in Rush's **Generalist Entry Master's (GEM) Program**.

ARCHIVES NEWS ::

Rush University has been working to digitize some of its archival materials from Rush and its predecessor schools and predecessor hospitals. Including hospital newsletters, photos, annual reports and more, these archived materials are now available for viewing online. Visit www.archive.org/details/rushuniversity to browse the available materials.

Visit www.con.rushalumni.org for more College News and Class Notes.

MICHAEL REESE NURSES' ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION DONATES REMAINING FUNDS TO COLLEGE OF NURSING

When the Michael Reese Nurses' Alumnae Association chose to disband in 2006, Barbara Asner was tasked to decide where to donate their remaining funds. Over the course of her research, Asner, an alumna of the Michael Reese Hospital School of Nursing (which closed in 1981), discovered that the founder of her nursing school, Anne E. Nourse, actually had graduated from St. Luke's Hospital School of Nursing in 1890. "We thought, we'll return it to its source, so to speak," Asner said. After a discussion with Dean Melanie Dreher, PhD, RN, FAAN, Asner and the alumnae association chose to put the funds toward Rush's PhD program. The funds will provide scholarships for PhD students, matching grants for students' research and membership in the Midwest Nursing Research Society.

CLASS NOTES

PRESBYTERIAN ::

BETTY PARKS EUBANK, '52, of Lee's Summit, Mo., wrote that members of the Presbyterian Hospital School of Nursing Spring Class of 1952 had a biennial get-together this past May to celebrate the class's 60th reunion. Other alumni in attendance included **ELIZABETH ("BETTY") ERSKINE BROMLEY, GLORIA AUERBACH CHRISTOPHERSON, PATRICIA CROWE COLLIER, DOLORES KENNEDY HANCE, DIANE LA CROSSE MANNEL** and **LOIS MARLETT STEURY.**

PRESBYTERIAN-ST.LUKE'S ::

MIRIAM GANSS COTE, '61, of Downers Grove, Ill., currently volunteers at Rush with her husband. Cote decided to come back to Rush after touring Rush's new Tower hospital.

ALICE ANTHONY SIPPEL, '66, of Marina, Calif., spent some time in Europe this past summer with her husband, Lee. The choir she sings in was invited to sing at the Olympic venues, and they even sang at Westminster Abbey in London and Euro Disneyland in Paris. They also did a couple of "flash mobs" in the Toronto airport and while waiting in line to cruise the River Thames. She said it was "so very exciting and fun! A new chapter in our family's history!"

KAREN VAN DYKE LAMB, DNP, APRN, BC ('67, MSN '82, DNP '91), of Chicago, married John Luther Rogers this past June in Mikkeli, Finland.

LILLIAN ERICKSON PICKUP, '67, works in the Division of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse in the Illinois Department of Human Services. This past summer she was awarded the "Saving Lives" Prevention Award for her years of dedication in helping to stop overdose deaths. The award was presented by Roosevelt University in recognition of International Overdose Awareness Day.

BONNIE T. WINTERS, '63, CRNA '68, of Parker, Colo., received the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists (AANA) 2012 Alice Magaw Outstanding Clinical Practitioner Award during the AANA National Convention held in San Francisco. According to the AANA, the Alice Magaw Award "recognizes the accomplishments of CRNAs involved in direct patient care who have made an important contribution to the advancement of the nurse anesthesia practice."

RUSH ::

LISA JO HOPP, BSN '79, professor of nursing at Purdue University, Calumet and director of the Indiana Center for Evidence-Based Nursing Practice, was recently inducted as a fellow of the American Academy of Nursing. She is considered an accomplished leader in nursing education, management, practice and research.

VIRGINIA MAIKLER, MSN '80, of Park Ridge, Ill., volunteers with Advocate Lutheran General Children's Hospital and travels to the Dominican Republic every year to help run clinics in remote areas. When asked what motivated her to volunteer, she responded, "As a retiree, I wanted to volunteer in the environment I most enjoyed during my career, the hospital, and do what I most enjoyed: working with hospitalized children and their parents." At home, she spends her time taking piano lessons and participating in a book discussion group, a charity knitting group and a garden club.

ELIZABETH GLICK BERKOWITZ, BSN '81, of Boston, is a staff nurse for neuro/ortho trauma in the operating room at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center.

RUTHANNE REICHERT TAYLOR, BSN '83, MSN '89, DNP '96, has started a two-year tour as the medical officer at the U.S. Embassy in Monrovia, Liberia.

THREE WAYS TO KEEP IN TOUCH ::

1. Post your news on our Facebook page at **www.facebook.com/rushuniversityalumni**
2. Submit your class note online at **www.con.rushalumni.org/contact**
3. Send your personal updates or suggestions for *News & Views* to
   Office of Alumni Relations
   Rush University Medical Center
   1700 W. Van Buren St., Suite 250
   Chicago, IL 60612

   or by email at
   alumni@rush.edu

MARY BRUCKER, PHD '89, of Arlington, Texas, is the recipient of the 2012 Hattie Hemschemeyer Award. Named in honor of first president of the American College of Nurse-Midwives (ACNM) and a pioneer of the profession, it is ACNM's most prestigious award. The award is given annually to an ACNM member who has been certified for at least 10 years and has made continuous outstanding and/or historically significant contributions to midwifery, ACNM and/or maternal child health. Brucker is currently the graduate program director at Baylor University's Louise Herrington School of Nursing.

MELISSA A. BURDI, BSN '03, of North Aurora, Ill., is an administrator of patient safety and accreditation for Cadence Health at Delnor Hospital.

CHERYL ANEMA, PHD '06, of South Holland, Ill., has received the DAISY Faculty Award for commitment to and inspirational influence on her students at Purdue University, Calumet, where Anema is assistant professor of nursing. Honorees are nominated by peers and colleagues for positively impacting their students through demonstrated excellence in clinical expertise, compassionate care and as role models in the nursing community. Specifically, Anema was cited for her ability to influence learning, promote interdisciplinary collaboration and effectively mentor students academically and professionally.

JOSH HAMILTON, DNP '06, CERT. '07, of Santa Ana, Calif., was appointed to the faculty of Human and Social Development in the School of Nursing at the University of Victoria (BC, Canada). Upon his return to the United States this past summer, he relocated to southern California, where he is now the associate dean for the College of Nursing at West Coast University.

ADAM SPURLOCK, MSN '10, of Oak Park, Ill., married Molly Burch, admissions specialist for Rush University College of Nursing, on Dec. 8, 2012, at the Rockford Art Museum.

NEW NURSING EXHIBIT AT RUSH

Patients and visitors stepping into the Smith Family Lounge on the fourth floor of the new Tower hospital facility now see a brightly lit exhibit showcasing artifacts, photos and stories that represent the history and future of nursing at Rush. Highlighting the traditions and culture of St. Luke's, Presbyterian, Presbyterian-St. Luke's and Rush schools of nursing, as well as the evolution of nursing at Rush, the display was funded in part by alumni contributions to the Edith D. Payne Nursing Archives Fund.

IN MEMORIAM

ST. LUKE'S ::

JEAN CAHILL HARRIS, '40, of Oakbrook Terrace, Ill.; Nov. 24, 2012

JANET LEACH VOLKMANN, '48, of Dallas; March 24, 2012

HELEN BROWN CANTWELL, '53, of Yorba Linda, Calif.; Aug. 4, 2012

A. LOUISE JONES, '53, of Glendale, Ariz.; Dec. 24, 2012

NANCY M. GODDARD EKLUND, '54, of Oak Forest, Ill.; June 9, 2012

HARRIET A. BUSH MOREHEAD, '54, of Ottawa, Ill.; Aug. 5, 2012

VIRGINIA FARMER GORDON, '58, of Burr Ridge, Ill.; Sept. 13, 2012

PRESBYTERIAN ::

ELIZABETH JANE PHILLIPS, '43, of Midlothian, Va.; Aug. 6, 2012

MARETA RUTH BENNETT MCBRIDE, '46, of Bronte, Texas; April 19, 2012

CORNELIA J. OTTENHOFF, '47, of Fort Collins, Colo.; Sept. 24, 2012

LOIS WEAVER VACHON, '48, of Garrett, Ind.; Nov. 4, 2010

STARR WILLIAMS MADSEN, '54, of Fresno, Calif.; July 14, 2011

MARY ELIZABETH ("BETH") RODGERS PLOWMAN, '54, of Waco, Texas; Feb. 3, 2012

PRESBYTERIAN-ST. LUKE'S ::

JUDITH A. TATERA PERRY, '60, of Rolling Meadows, Ill.; Nov. 16, 2012

LAVERNE G. MILLER, '66, of Oak Park, Ill.; Jan. 17, 2013

FACULTY ::

DONNA K. IPEMA, PHD, of River Forest, Ill.; Aug. 1, 2012

The November 2012 email version of *News & Views* erroneously included an In Memoriam listing for Barbara Schulz Blum, Presbyterian '53. We are pleased to report that Blum is alive and well and living in Freeport, Ill. *News & Views* sincerely regrets the error.

FIVE FACULTY MEMBERS RECEIVE NURSING'S HIGHEST HONOR

Selected for their extraordinary individual accomplishments, five faculty members from Rush University College of Nursing were inducted as 2012 fellows to the American Academy of Nursing (AAN). Catherine Catrambone, PhD, RN (MSN '89, PhD '00); Mary Johnson, PhD, RN; Wrenetha Julion, PhD, MPH, RN (PhD '02); Susan Swider, PhD, APRN, BC; and Marilyn Wideman, DNP, RN-BC (DNP '07) were honored at the AAN induction ceremony on Oct. 13, 2012, at the Hyatt Regency on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C.

The American Academy of Nursing's approximately 1,900 fellows are nursing leaders in education, management, practice and research. They include association executives; university presidents, chancellors and deans; state and federal political appointees; hospital chief executives and vice presidents for nursing; nurse consultants; and researchers and entrepreneurs.

Fellowship in the AAN is not only a recognition of one's individual accomplishments within the nursing profession, but is also considered a responsibility to engage with health care leaders outside the academy to transform health care in America and to make nursing's contributions visible.

For information about the five selected faculty members and their professional contributions, visit our website at www.con.rushalumni.org/faan.

news & views

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Newsletter of the Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke's Nurses Alumni Association RUSH UNIVERSITY

news & views

WINTER 2013

UPCOMING EVENTS

Golden Lamp Society Luncheon
Wednesday, May 22, 2013
11 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Searle Conference Center
Rush University Medical Center, Chicago

Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke's Nurses Homecoming 2013
Saturday, October 18–19, 2013
Rush University Medical Center, Chicago

Are you a Presbyterian-St. Luke's 1963 graduate? We need your help in planning your 50th class reunion and Homecoming celebration. Complete the interest survey online at www.surveymonkey.com/s/PSL1963Homecoming or contact the Office of Alumni Relations at alumni@rush.edu or (312) 942-2569.

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RUSH UNIVERSITY

news & views
FALL 2013

RUSH'S PROFESSIONAL NURSING STAFF: CULTIVATING A CULTURE OF NURSING LEADERSHIP FOR 30 YEARS

Both Jessica Weinstock, MSN '13, and her PNS mentor, Bill Lombardi, BSN '08, now work in Rush's NSICU.

Founded in 1983, the Professional Nursing Staff (PNS) at Rush provides all clinical nurses employed by Rush with the opportunity to help shape nursing practice, standards and quality of care — a commitment to nursing leadership that the PNS extends to students as well.

Jessica Weinstock, MSN '13, experienced this firsthand. When she was a student in the Generalist Entry Master's Program, Weinstock completed her quarter-long residency alongside Bill Lombardi, BSN '08, a nurse in Rush's Neuroscience Intensive Care Unit (NSICU) and then secretary of the PNS.

With Lombardi, Weinstock not only was immersed in the clinical side of the NSICU, but also had the opportunity to attend PNS executive committee meetings. Now Weinstock is a member of the PNS herself, working alongside Lombardi. "It was important to me that I start my professional nursing career at Rush," Weinstock said, "in an environment that promotes critical thinking and excellence" and where nurses play a large leadership role.

"The Professional Nursing Staff's goals of the pursuit of excellence in care, education and research complement the goals of the College of Nursing," said Marcia Murphy, DNP, ANP, FAHA (MSN '80, CERT. '97, DNP '07), the first president of the PNS. "This synergy promotes a culture in which staff nurses aspire to become leaders and advance their education."

Those objectives are clearly reflected in Rush's nursing staff. Rush already has exceeded the Institute of Medicine report *The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health*'s recommendation that hospitals have 80 percent of bedside nurses at the BSN level by 2020: About 88 percent of bedside nurses at Rush have a degree at the BSN level or higher.

The model of Rush's PNS, which celebrates its 30th anniversary in October, was initially proposed in the late 1970s by the founding Dean of Rush University College of Nursing Luther P. Christman, PhD, RN, FAAN. It reflects his aspiration to establish a culture at Rush that values the professional nurse's advancement and autonomy, promoting nurses' participation in major Medical Center decisions alongside the medical staff and hospital administration. At the time, the PNS "was a completely new concept in nursing," Murphy said. When it was established at Rush, there were only two other hospitals in the country with a similar model.

Today having a shared governance model is a requirement for hospitals to earn Magnet status, the highest recognition given for nursing excellence. Many hospitals now have their own professional nursing staffs. Yet Rush remains a leader: Rush has received Magnet status for three consecutive four-year terms, and this year the PNS at Rush won the inaugural Sigma Theta Tau Clinical Partnership Award in the academic medical center category.

And for students like Weinstock, the PNS is an introduction to a vibrant group of nurse leaders. "It's important for students to get involved with the PNS," Weinstock said. "We are the clinical nurse leaders of the future." *Please see page 7 for a graphic representation of the PNS.*

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MESSAGE FROM DEAN MELANIE DREHER

HONORING OUR PAST AND PRESENT NURSE LEADERS

When the Professional Nursing Staff (PNS) was formed in 1983, Rush became one of the few hospitals in the country to establish a shared governance model, giving practicing nurses a voice in determining standards for the quality of nursing care for the Medical Center. It was part of the bold vision of Luther P. Christman, PhD, RN, FAAN, as he worked to create an environment that promoted nurses' professional development and autonomy. Today, 30 years later, Rush continues to be a leader and the model for hospitals across the country. *Read more about the PNS in the cover story of this issue.*

The integration of education and practice is a hallmark of Rush. In addition to the Professional Nursing Staff shared governance model, Dr. Christman established a unification model, in which Rush nurses were both practitioners and educators, creating a quality learning community that benefitted both patients and students. In 2008 Dr. Christman's vision was resurrected in the College of Nursing, acknowledging the extraordinary contribution of our nursing staff as nursing educators by offering academic appointments in the college. Today, more than 100 practicing nurses at Rush hold faculty appointments in the college, and Rush remains the only Chicago-based health science center in which members of the nursing staff are eligible for university appointments. These honorary appointments to the College of Nursing clinical faculty are extended as a symbol of the high regard with which we hold our colleagues in practice for their expertise as educators as well as clinicians. They bring clinical knowledge and experience that expand and enhance a learning environment for students that could not possibly be achieved by the academic faculty alone.

This year has been a busy one for both the faculty and staff, as we successfully transitioned to a trimester schedule, shifted our specialty master's curricula to the doctoral level and began restructuring our faculty governance. In the meantime, we managed to graduate 400 generalist and specialty students, who already have brought the Rush guarantee of nursing excellence to their practices.

Thank you for helping us fulfill our enduring vision: the preparation of future health care leaders through education, practice and research. We are very grateful.

Best wishes,

Melanie C. Dreher, PhD, RN, FAAN
John L. and Helen Kellogg Dean
Rush University College of Nursing

THREE WAYS TO KEEP IN TOUCH ::

1. Post your news and achievements on our Facebook page at **www.facebook.com/rushuniversityalumni.**
2. Submit your news and achievements online at **www.con.rushalumni.org/contact.**
3. Send us your preferred email address at **alumni@rush.edu** to ensure you're receiving our online-only alumni news, event notices and more.

A NURSE PRACTITIONER WORKING ABROAD SHARES HER STORY

In 2006 Ruthanne Reichert Taylor, BSN ’83, MSN ’89, DNP ’96, was stationed in Kathmandu, Nepal, when anti-monarchy protests became too dangerous for the diplomats working for the U.S. Embassy to stay. The U.S. government evacuated all but nine of the 80 personnel stationed there. Taylor was one of the nine. As she explained, “The medical officer doesn’t leave until the ambassador leaves.”

She’s now the medical officer at the U.S. Embassy in Liberia — a country just coming off of a 14-year civil war. “We’re only at the posts where the health care is terrible,” Taylor said. In Liberia, where she’ll serve until 2014, she cares for around 150 American patients and some 400 local embassy staff, working with only two local nurses and a lab technician. In addition to handling walk-ins and appointments at her clinic, Taylor advises and briefs the ambassador on medical concerns.

Taylor didn’t start off her career working in underserved countries. She spent 13 years working in intense, emergency settings — including five as the director of a Life Flight medical helicopter — before realizing that she was burned out. And she was itching to work abroad. Returning to Rush for her DNP for community health, Taylor found the program “perfect for international situations, where you’re doing nursing care for a community, rather than one person at a time coming in.” Since earning her degree, she also has worked abroad in Russia (where she met her husband, Bill, a logistician for the State Department), Chad and Antarctica, where she worked on a field camp on the West Antarctic Ice Sheet and lived in a tent on the snow.

Taylor still encounters intense medical situations in her role abroad. If someone comes in with a severe case of dysentery or a spine injury, there aren’t enough resources for her to treat the patient, and so she has to travel with the patient to Paris or London. “You go into your normal day thinking, ‘I have two well-child checks and somebody with a wart removal,’ and then somebody walks in saying, ‘I have right lower quadrant pain and my temp’s 101,’ and then you’re flying with him to London,” Taylor said. “You never know what you’re going to see.”

“Returning to Rush for my DNP for community health, I found the program perfect for international situations, where you’re doing nursing care for a community, rather than one person at a time coming in.”

RUTHANNE REICHERT TAYLOR, BSN ’83, MSN ’89, DNP ’96

COLLEGE NEWS & ACHIEVEMENTS

LYNNE BRAUN, PHD, CNP, FAAN (MSN '80, CERT. '97), a nurse practitioner in Rush's Preventive Cardiology Center and the Rush Heart Center for Women and a professor in the College of Nursing's Department of Adult Health Nursing, was selected as the University of Illinois at Chicago College of Nursing's 2013 Distinguished Nurse Alumna. She also received a 2013 Sigma Theta Tau International Founders Award for clinical excellence.

FAWN COTHRAN, PHD, RN, assistant professor, was named a 2013 - 2015 Claire M. Fagin Fellow of the National Hartford Centers of Gerontological Nursing Excellence, receiving a grant to support her post-doctoral research training and career development.

SUZANNE FLOOD, MS, APN, ANP, instructor, was recognized as the 2012 Volunteer Primary Care Provider of the Year by Community Health, a free clinic in Chicago's West Town neighborhood.

LYNN MOHR, MS, APN, PCNS-BC, CPN, instructor, was awarded a Nurse Educator Fellowship by the State of Illinois Board of Higher Education.

A LOOK BACK: SUZANNE H. COCHRAN MILLER, PRES.-ST. LUKE'S '63

Our annual Homecoming celebration is a time to celebrate the past and future of Rush nursing. Suzanne H. Cochran Miller, Pres.-St. Luke's '63, looks forward to reconnecting with fellow alumni at Homecoming on Oct. 18 - 19, when she will celebrate the 50th anniversary of her graduation.

"During my time at Presbyterian-St. Luke's," Miller remembered, "I most enjoyed the camaraderie of my classmates, our excellent education and our afternoon formal teas with 'Miss Peepers.'"

Please come celebrate with Miller at Homecoming this fall. See www.con.rushalumni.org/homecoming for more.

MASAKO MAYAHARA, PHD, RN (BSN '97, CERT. '97, MSN '98), assistant professor, was selected for a three-year Coleman Fellows Palliative Medicine Training Program.

PAULA MEIER, DNSC, RN (PHD '85), professor and the director for Clinical Research and Lactation in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at Rush, received the 2013 Audrey Hepburn Award for Contributions to the Health and Welfare of Children from Sigma Theta Tau International.

MARCIA MURPHY, DNP, ANP-CS (MSN '80, CERT. '97, DNP '07), assistant professor, received the Greater Chicago region's 2013 Nurse.com Nursing Excellence Award in the Education and Mentorship category, and she is now being considered for the national award. Other 2013 Nurse.com Nursing Excellence Award nominees include **MARILYN WIDEMAN, DNP, FAAN (DNP '07); BENSON WRIGHT, RN, MSN (MSN '12); FRED BROWN JR., BSN '89, MSN '94, DNP '07; REGINA A. MCCLENTON, RN, BSN;** and **JENNIFER GRENIER, RN-BC, MSN,** of Rush Oak Park Hospital.

ROSEMARIE SUHAYADA, PHD, ANP-BC (CERT. '98), associate provost for institutional research, assessment and accreditation, was inducted into the Institute of Medicine of Chicago.

Since **MARILYN WIDEMAN, DNP, FAAN (DNP '07),** was promoted to associate provost for professional education and community engagement, she has assembled a leadership team that includes **SALLY LEMKE, MS, RN, WHNP-BC,** as clinical director of the Office of Faculty Practice and Community Engagement and **TANYA FRIESE, MSN (BSN '05, MSN '10),** as director of continuing education and lifelong learning.

JOELLEN WILBUR, PHD, RN, FNP-BC, FAAN, professor and associate dean for research, has been named to the Sigma Theta Tau International Nurse Researcher Hall of Fame.

Visit www.con.rushalumni.org/faculty for more College News and Achievements.

ALUMNI NEWS & ACHIEVEMENTS

PRESBYTERIAN-ST. LUKE'S ::

LYNDA HASKINS BURNSIDE, '62, of Glen Rose, Texas, retired from active nursing practice Jan. 1, 2013. "I'm tending to horses, dogs, cats," she wrote, "and I'm grateful for every day of good health. Love to my classmates and friends!"

CYNTHIA BOS SMITH, '66, of Largo, Fla., an ARNP in women's health since 1979, works as a certified clinical research coordinator, still doing part-time research.

RUSH ::

MARGARET FAUT CALLAHAN, CRNA '76, MSN '79, PHD '84, dean of the Marquette University College of Nursing in Milwaukee, was elected to serve as the treasurer of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing Board of Directors through 2016.

REBECCA MARTIN TAYLOR, BSN '81, of Columbia, S.C., is a quality assurance manager for Gentiva Home Health. "I am married to a wonderful guy and have a six-year-old daughter whom we adopted from Guatemala when she was 10 months old," Taylor said. "I stay busy with family and pets."

CYNTHIA RUSSELL, BSN '83, MSN '84, has joined Olivet Nazarene University in Bourbonnais, Ill., as the new associate dean of nursing and health sciences.

JUDY B. FRIEDRICHS, MSN '85, education and quality coordinator for women's and children's nursing at Rush, presented a poster on a collaborative approach to exceptional caring at the International Conference on Pregnancy Loss and Infant Death.

FRED BROWN JR., BSN '89, MSN '94, DNP '07, a unit director in orthopedics at Rush, was accepted into the American Organization of Nurse Executives (AONE) 2013 Nurse Manager Fellowship Program.

MICHELLE MORFIN WILSON, MSN '97, of Hudson, Ohio, has been promoted to lead nurse practitioner in presurgery at Akron Children's Hospital. In April, Wilson received the Partner in Nursing Award from the Northeast Ohio Nursing Initiative. A student in the DNP program at the University of Akron, Wilson also received the 2013 American Association of Nurse Practitioners (AANP) Advocate State Award for Excellence.

KIMBERLY OOSTERHOUSE, MSN '98, an associate professor at the College of DuPage in Glen Ellyn, Ill., has graduated from the University of Illinois at Chicago with a PhD in nursing science.

ERIC S. ZACK, MSN '00, CERT. '01, DNP '12, of Bolingbrook, Ill., was named president-elect of the Professional Nursing Staff at Rush for 2013 - 2014.

THOMAS "THOM" BLOOMQUIST, MSN '01, a nurse anesthetist in Bow, N.H., serves as a volunteer peer visitor through the Amputee Coalition of America, a nonprofit organization that provides support for amputees. In this role, Bloomquist (whose leg was amputated 15 years ago after suffering from polio) helps others adapt to some of the physiological and psychological effects of amputation.

VERNA HENDRICKS-FERGUSON, PHD '01, an associate professor at the Saint Louis University School of Nursing, has published several articles on pediatric and adolescent cancer treatment over the past year, including a study on parental perspectives on behavioral health music intervention for adolescent cancer patients in the Nov. 13, 2012, *Journal of Adolescent Health.* The recipient of the 2013

A BIG 'THANK YOU' TO OUR ALUMNI DONORS

Thank you to the many alumni who have supported Rush University College of Nursing and the Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke's Nurses Alumni Association this year. Your generosity provides vital funding for college initiatives, including educational and research opportunities for students. We are especially grateful to our generous Golden Lamp Society members.

The Golden Lamp Society is the giving recognition society of Rush University College of Nursing. It celebrates the generosity of alumni, faculty and friends of the College of Nursing who make annual gifts of $300 or more for use within the college. Golden Lamp Society members who make annual gifts of $1,000 or more also are recognized through membership in the Anchor Cross Society, Rush University Medical Center's leadership annual giving society. Anchor Cross Society membership comes with privileges such as invitations to educational events featuring Rush's expert clinicians and special communications and updates.

To learn more about Golden Lamp Society membership, visit www.con.rushalumni.org/gls or call the Office of Alumni Relations at (312) 942-7199.

Oncology Nursing Society (ONS) Pearl Moore "Making a Difference" Emerging Leader Award and a *St. Louis Magazine* Excellence in Nursing Award, Hendricks-Ferguson also was elected to a two-year term as the special interest group coordinator for the ONS Home Care and Palliative Care Group.

LAURA ZUCKERMAN, BSN '04, MSN '09, a neuro oncology nurse practitioner at Rush, received a Compassionate Care Award at the Voices Against Brain Cancer Walk in Chicago's Lincoln Park neighborhood in May.

SHEILA LEVINS, MSN '10, is serving as interim unit director for the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU) at Rush, after the retirement of **JUDITH SALITORE, MSN '76.**

CRISTINA DOVALINA, MSN '11, a nurse on the neuroscience unit at Rush, has started Rush's DNP family nurse practitioner program.

MARY L. GISH, DNP '11, of Penn Valley, Calif., is "living [my] dream of teaching," she wrote. Gish is director of the Central California Center for Excellence in Nursing (CCCEN) at California State University, Fresno.

ANN LOUGH, MSN '11, of Chicago, is the unit director in Rush's Surgical Intensive Care Unit (SICU).

JENNA PEDERSON, MSN '11, a nurse in Rush's Robert R. McCormick Foundation Center for Advanced Emergency Response, has started Rush's DNP family nurse practitioner program.

LAURIE COCO, MSN '12, of Chicago, is a student in Rush's DNP program for adult and gerontology primary care.

JESSICA KOZELSKY, MSN '12, of Chicago, works at Rush as a registered nurse in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU).

Visit www.con.rushalumni.org/notes for more Alumni News and Achievements.

IN MEMORIAM

ST. LUKE'S ::

ALICE MILLER HUTCHINS, '40, of Cincinnati; March 22, 2013

MARJORIE "MARGE" TOWNS JOHNSON, '43, of Sandy, Utah; Dec. 9, 2010

MARGARET "PEGGY" (CAVANAGH) AHLFELD, '44, of Dayton, Ohio; April 28, 2013

NANCY (WIEBE) STOLTZ, '50, of Valparaiso, Ind.; Dec. 10, 2012

SHIRLEY L. DOUGLAS VEIRS, '51, of Clinton, Ill.; April 4, 2013

JOAN C. (SPREER) TELLER, '56, of Kent, Wash.; July 27, 2012

HELEN (SORAK) MACCONNELL, '57, of Merrillville, Ind.; July 26, 2011

JANET "JAN" SPENCER HIGGINS, '58, of Midland, Mich.; April 30, 2013

KATHRYN "TERRY" (SLOAN) PERYAM, '59, of Olympia Fields, Ill.; March 19, 2013

PRESBYTERIAN ::

LOVETTA R. DIXON BLANKE, '41, of Dayton, Ohio; Dec. 10, 2012

EVE M. (SIMOLIN) MCELROY, '41, of San Antonio; Jan. 16, 2013

ORVILLA L. "PINKY" (PINKOWSKY) PUPP, '44, of Schaumburg, Ill.; April 6, 2011

VIRGINIA KRESIN SCANLON, '46, of Grapevine, Texas; Jan. 27, 2013

CAROL SMITH FORSTER, '49, of Appleton, Wis.; Jan. 18, 2013

DIANA JORDAN RUNYON, '56, of Grayslake, Ill.; Feb. 27, 2013

FORMER FACULTY ::

LYDIA L. TORDECILLA, of Chicago; Jan. 21, 2013

CON STUDENTS SERVE A COMMUNITY ABROAD

In December 2012, 10 students and three staff from Rush University traveled to Belize to take part in the 11th annual Rush University Belize Immersion Experience (RUBIE). The 11-day trip centered on community service, education and individual growth for participants, which this year included students from Rush's College of Nursing, College of Health Sciences and the Graduate College.

Read more about the Belize trip at www.con.rushalumni.org/belize.

RUSH'S PROFESSIONAL NURSING STAFF BY THE NUMBERS

1983

1981 1982 1984 1985

YEAR THE PNS WAS FOUNDED

9 OUT OF 21

NUMBER OF PNS PAST PRESIDENTS WHO ARE CON ALUMNI

11

NUMBER OF ARTICLES IN THE PNS BYLAWS

MORE THAN 2,000

CURRENT NUMBER OF MEMBERS IN THE PNS

MORE THAN 600

NUMBER OF COLLEGE OF NURSING ALUMNI EMPLOYED BY RUSH

3

NUMBER OF TIMES RUSH HAS BEEN AWARDED MAGNET DESIGNATION

88

PERCENTAGE OF BEDSIDE NURSES AT RUSH WHO HAVE THEIR BSN OR HIGHER

news & views

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Newsletter of the Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke's Nurses Alumni Association RUSH UNIVERSITY

news & views

FALL 2013

UPCOMING EVENTS

Rush University Golf Outing
Wednesday, September 18, 2013, 7 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Silver Lake Country Club, Orland Park, Ill.

Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke's Nurses Homecoming 2013
Saturday, October 18, and
Sunday, October 19, 2013
Rush University Medical Center, Chicago
Invitations to reunion classes forthcoming

Rush Nurses Alumni Reception in conjunction with Sigma Theta Tau International Convention
Saturday, November 16
JW Marriott, Indianapolis

RUSH-PRESBYTERIAN-ST. LUKE'S NURSES ALUMNI ASSOCIATION 2012 - 2014 BOARD ROSTER

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Rebecca J. Zapatochny-Rufo, DNSc, RN, CCRN (PhD '03)

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